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tude of islands, large and small, that occur between latitude 10° S., and 20° N. and longitude 90° to 170° E. From New Britain in the Bismarck archipelago midway between latitude 10° S. and the equator, to Mindanao, the most southern of the Philippines between latitude 5° and 10° N., situated to the northwest of New Britain, is quite a leap, as will be perceived by a moment's thought. The occurrence of *Eucalyptus* in the Philippine island above named has recently been verified by Mr. Maiden, the director of the Botanic Gardens, Sydney, N. S. W., who has examined the specimen collected by William Rich, the botanist of the U. S. ship *Relief* of the famous Wilkes\* Exploring Expedition, who collected the plant or example, near Caldero, Mindanao, some time between 1838 and 1842, and named it *E. multiflora*; it proves, however, to be identical with *E. naudiniana* F. v. Müller.† Rich's name being preoccupied explains the change of name. *E. naudiniana* occurs in New Pommern (New Britain) 'and is so common in the forests that two saw-mills have been started especially for the timber, which is not hard as the Australian *Eucalyptus*, but still good useful timber.'‡

ROBT. E. C. STEARNS.

LOS ANGELES, CAL.,

August 15, 1903.

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#### QUOTATIONS.

##### LORD SALISBURY AS A MAN OF SCIENCE.

IT is generally understood that the branch of science which Lord Salisbury loved best was chemistry, and the freedom with which he discussed chemical questions gives weight to the suggestion. Besides, it is well known that he spent much time in his laboratory in Hatfield House, where, however, he directed

\* Proc. U. S. National Museum, Vol. XXVI., p. 691.

† *Id.*, p. 692.

‡ As Mr. Maiden says: "There are so few Eucalypti found outside of Australia that the question of the identity of one found beyond the limits of that continent is of interest, and the occurrence of the genus in the Philippines is now set at rest, and doubtless its range in that group will be ascertained by American botanists."

his attention also to engineering and electrical problems. He conceived the idea of utilizing the flow of the River Lea for the electric lighting of the house, and the provision of a water supply to the town of Hatfield from the mains of Hatfield Park was due to his thought and kindness.

In many ways he showed that his love of science had practical as well as academic leanings, but he made no original communication on scientific subjects to the learned societies. He was elected to the fellowship of the Royal Society in 1869, and almost immediately became a member of the council. He took a keen and active interest in the internal affairs of the Royal Society, for he served on the council in 1882-3, and again in 1892-4. He was vice-president also in 1882-3, and in 1893-4. And almost his last public act was associated with science and not with politics, for on the occasion of the election of the Prince of Wales to the fellowship of the Royal Society in April last it was Lord Salisbury who introduced him to the president and fellows.

Lord Salisbury's character as a man of science deservedly secured for him the particular respect and admiration of our profession, though it must be confessed that he made no bid whatever for our favor. Lord Salisbury's name is not associated with a singular popular measure of the kind that would be sure to win medical approbation. But medical men could see in his attitude toward life the trained and austere thinker. He did not speak if he did not know; he would not proceed to the next step till he had verified the one on which progress should depend; and, having convinced himself in which direction truth lay, he would hold firmly to his convictions.—*The Lancet*.

#### CIVIL ENGINEERS OF THE NAVY.

THE civil engineers of the navy seem to have a substantial grievance. The service has grown and with it the duties of these dockyard officials. Our navy repair shops do an infinitely larger business than at any time since the war for the union. The civil engineer at Norfolk, for instance, has under his charge public works involving an expenditure of \$2,700,000, and is also responsible

for the repairs to and preservation of property valued at \$2,500,000. His brother officer at New York is supervising the investment of appropriations amounting to \$4,500,000, and is responsible for property estimated to be worth \$7,000,000. Yet his rank is only that of a lieutenant-commander, while the officer at Norfolk is merely a junior lieutenant. It is also a fact that there are but thirty-one officers in the corps, of whom one is Peary, who has been away from his regular duties, in the interest of science, for a number of years and who is about to go again. Promotion, too, is very slow. As the corps now stands, two of the junior lieutenants will not become full lieutenants until the age of fifty-nine, when they may, perhaps, be grandfathers. Altogether, it seems plain that if more rank and pay are to be bestowed anywhere in our rapidly expanding navy the civil engineers ought to be the first considered. Efficient men in this corps should mean better navy yards and docks, and so greater economies in the interest of the taxpayers.—New York *Evening Post*.

#### GEOLOGICAL EXPLORATIONS IN EGYPT.\*

Thanks to the munificence of Mr. W. E. de Winton, who generously undertook to defray the entire cost of carrying on for one or two seasons geological explorations in the Libyan Desert, the trustees of the British Museum have been enabled, as the result of the past season's operations, to enrich considerably the national collection of fossils in the Natural History Museum. Dr. C. W. Andrews, of the geological department, was again sent on this mission, and he received valuable assistance from Captain H. G. Lyons, director-general of the Egyptian Geological Survey, and other officers of the survey. Dr. Andrews proceeded to the Fayûm and began work in the district to the north of the lake Birket-el-Kerun; and here he secured a fairly large collection of vertebrate remains, including several new forms and some specimens of great scientific interest, nearly all the bones being of Upper Eocene age.

\* From the London *Times*.

The most important object obtained is a very fine and almost complete skull and mandible of a large, heavily-built ungulate, the first specimen of which was discovered two years ago by Mr. H. J. L. Beadnell, of the Egyptian Geological Survey, who called the genus *Arsinoitherium* (after Arsinoë, a queen of the Fayûm in the 3d century B. C.), naming the species *Zitteli*, after Professor K. von Zittel, the distinguished paleontologist at the University of Munich, and a pioneer of geological exploration in the Libyan Desert. *Arsinoitherium* probably resembled in general appearance a big rhinoceros, though in no way related to that animal. The form of the bones of the feet and legs suggests that it was most nearly allied to the elephants and to the Dinocerata, a remarkable group of huge extinct herbivorous hooved mammals, remains of which have been found in great abundance in the Eocene Tertiary strata of Wyoming, North America; but in the possession of a pair of great bony horns over the nose, together with a smaller pair over the eyes and in the peculiar form of the teeth *Arsinoitherium* stands quite apart from other mammals.

Dr. Andrews also came across a very large mandible and a maxilla, both with well preserved teeth, which have characters indicating the existence of a species of *Arsinoitherium* much bigger than the one named after Zittel.

Of the early and primitive forms of Proboscidea a considerable series of specimens was acquired for the national collection at South Kensington. Mention may be specially made of a nearly complete skull of *Paleomastodon*, one of the early forms of the elephant family lately found in the Eocene beds of Egypt. It is of interest to note that most of the characters which give to the skull and teeth of the modern elephant their peculiar structure and appearance have in *Paleomastodon* only just begun to develop. Thus as regards the teeth, the grinders are much simpler than in later forms, and consist of three transverse ridges only. Moreover, all the cheek-teeth (premolars and molars) are in wear at once, as in ordinary mammals, while in the recent elephants the front cheek-teeth fall out before the hinder ones are cut. The shortening